

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

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C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 2825

LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, US, DA
SUBJ: PRIME AND FOREIGN MINISTERS' REACTIONS TO MEETINGS WITH
THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY

1. IN RESPONSE TO MY REQUEST, ON MAY 12 MFA PERMANENT
UNDER SECRETARY EIGIL JORGENSEN PROVIDED ME WITH THE
REACTION FURNISHED HIM BY PRIME MINISTER ANKER JORGENSEN
AND FOREIGN MINISTER K B ANDERSEN TO THEIR MEETINGS
IN LONDON WITH THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY.

2. BOTH THE DANISH PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER
CAME AWAY FROM THE LONDON MEETING WITH A "FEELING OF
WARMTH" FOR THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY. THE DANES WERE NOT
ONLY SATISFIED WITH STATEMENTS MADE BY US LEADERS ON
VIRTUALLY ALL SUBJECTS, BUT THEY PARTICULARLY
APPRECIATED THE IMPORTANCE THAT BOTH THE PRESIDENT AND
SECRETARY GAVE TO CLOSE RELATIONS WITH THEIR WESTERN
EUROPEAN ALLIES.

3. PRIME MINISTER JORGENSEN WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT
THE DANISH GOVERNMENT WAS GRATIFIED TO HEAR FROM THE
AMERICAN LEADERS THAT THE PROBLEMS OF WESTERN DEFENSE
AND SECURITY MUST BE RESOLVED TOGETHER THROUGH MUTUAL
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COOPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING. THE DANES WELCOMED
THE EMPHASIS BY THE AMERICANS ON COOPERATION RATHER
THAN AN ATTITUDE OF "THE US TALKS; THE EUROPEANS
LISTEN". THE DANISH LEADERS STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT
THERE IS A NEED FOR LONG-RANGE PLANNING FOR THE
DEFENSE OF WESTERN EUROPE AND ARE HAPPY THAT IT IS
TO BE UNDERTAKEN. THE DANES WILL DO EVERYTHING THEY

CAN TO HELP IN THIS EFFORT.

4. THEY ALSO WILL LEND THEIR FULL SUPPORT IN ASSIST-
ING THE US TO BROADEN THE USE OF NATO AS A FORUM
FOR DISCUSSION OF A WIDE RANGE OF POLITICAL SUB-
JECTS OF MUTUAL INTEREST TO THE ALLIES, EVEN IF
"SOME COUNTRIES" OF THE ALLIANCE ARE OPPOSED TO SUCH
AN ENLARGEMENT.

5. PRIOR TO THE LONDON SUMMIT, PRIME MINISTER
JORGENSEN WAS SOMEWHAT CONCERNED THAT DANISH
VIEWS ON EAST-WEST RELATIONS, AND PARTICULARLY ON
THE HUMAN RIGHTS ASPECTS OF THIS RELATIONSHIP, MIGHT
BE MARKEDLY DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF THE AMERICANS.
JORGENSEN WAS REASSURED BY HIS BILATERAL
CONVERSATIONS WITH THE PRESIDENT TO DISCOVER THAT
DANISH AND AMERICAN VIEWS ON THESE IMPORTANT SUBJECTS
ARE QUITE CLOSE.

6. PRIME MINISTER JORGENSEN WAS GLAD THAT HE WAS
ABLE DURING LUNCH TO EXPRESS TO THE PRESIDENT HIS
VIEWS ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND EURO-COMMUNISM AND WAS
DELIGHTED THAT THE PRESIDENT DISPLAYED SUCH AN "OPEN
MIND" ON THESE SUBJECTS. FOR THE DANES, THE CRUX OF
THE QUESTION OF COMMUNISTS IN WESTERN EUROPEAN
GOVERNMENTS TURNS ON WHETHER THESE COMMUNIST PARTIES
ARE REALLY PREPARED TO ACCEPT A PLURALISTIC APPROACH
TO POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT.

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7. PRIME MINISTER JORGENSEN RETURNED TO COPENHAGEN
WITH THE FEELING THAT DANISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS ARE
BETTER THAN THEY HAVE BEEN FOR MANY YEARS. HE HAS
REPEATED PRIVATELY ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS TO HIS PERSONAL
ASSOCIATES - AS WELL AS PUBLICLY TO THE PRESS - HIS
FAVORABLE SURPRISE OVER HOW MUCH THE PRESIDENT KNEW
ABOUT HIM PERSONALLY AND ABOUT THE SITUATION IN
DENMARK IN GENERAL.

8. FINALLY, FOREIGN MINISTER ANKDERSEN HOPES THAT
HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO RESUME HIS DIALOGUE
WITH SECRETARY VANCE AND OTHER HIGH-LEVEL US OFFICIALS
IN WASHINGTON THIS FALL. A BRIEF STOP IN WASHINGTON COULD
BE MADE AFTER HIS OFFICIAL VISITS TO BRAZIL AND CUBA
WHICH WE UNDERSTAND WILL TAKE PLACE IN OCTOBER.
DEAN

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